

DAINTY HOME GOWNS

THE WOMANLY WOMAN CHOOSES WISELY HER INDOOR FROCKS.

Costumes That Are Neat and Becoming Are Often More Attractive Than Rich Ones That Lack Individuality—Great Contrasts Should Be Avoided.

[Special Correspondence.]

NEW YORK, Dec. 13.—Almost any woman can manage to look attractive and well dressed in the street, but it is not every one who can or does take the pains to look well at home. It is one thing to have an outdoor dress with all its concomitants and to put the whole outfit on at once and take it off again on entering the house, and another to keep up a supply of neat and dainty home frocks. The first is comparatively easy and too often done. The second requires several attributes in the woman. She must be neat by nature, refined and artistic through teaching and instinct, and she must respect herself and her home life. Given all these things, the woman will always be sweet and dainty and a pleasant picture to look on, even though she is old or her gowns are of calico and low priced.

All this sage reflection was invited by a pretty sight that accidentally came under my eyes today. I saw a young mother sitting by the side of her little daughter. Her husband is a physician, and her income is not overabundant, but how few women with plenty of money would have looked as dainty and sweet as she did, taken unawares! She had a neat striped choker dress flecked with white over the drab and brown stripes. The skirt was plainly finished and shirred at the slim waist. The waist itself was the new bias blouse, belted in and with a band of embroidery around the neck and down the front. It was slightly open in the neck, and there



A DAINY HOME ATTIRE.

was a wide collar of venetian point. The materials were so plain and the make so simple, and yet there was the subtle charm of individuality about it, and the neatness that made it perfect. Now, why cannot all women dress as carefully as that?

Her little girl had a silver gray serge, made with a yoke and braided with black soutache. The skirt was plainly hemmed, but the little frock was as attractive in its simplicity as the sweet little wearer. With all the richest frocks in the country no child can be well dressed without the stamp of neatness. When neatness and proper style are observed in making clothes, the result is the best dressing.

I know one lady who is so careless that she will put one dress on over another when she goes out. She does not do it on purpose, but she forgets. She is not a well dressed woman, though I know her garments cost much. It is not the cost or quality, but the care and style that make the woman a pleasure to strangers and a treasure at home.

Now, I know an ultra fashionable lady whose clothes come from afar. She has the deepest of maroon cloth in her new gown, and she has the sweetest of bonnets, and at this day of grace she has a most elegant moire coat. It is long, of superb quality, and it is bordered with fur and lined with brocade. The sleeves are enormous and half of Lyons velvet. There is heavy vandyke guipure upon it, and as she moves along the street people are apt to say, "What an elegantly dressed woman!" but see her at home, and you would give the praise to the doctor's industrious wife.

The doctor's wife stays home, studies the fashion papers, makes her clothes and sings at her work. The other buys a silken gown and a dolman opera cloak and sits wearily in her box, to be stared at, and goes home dissatisfied with what she has.

My object in saying all this is not very clear even to myself, but I dimly feel that I am trying to make it plain that fashionable dressing is not all of it. There is something beyond and above a mere following after a leader, and a woman may be well, becomingly and tastefully dressed with a small outlay if she will but pay attention to her garments and have her home attire her prettiest and neatest. She lives at home and for her home, and there she should look her sweetest. And, if she wants to,



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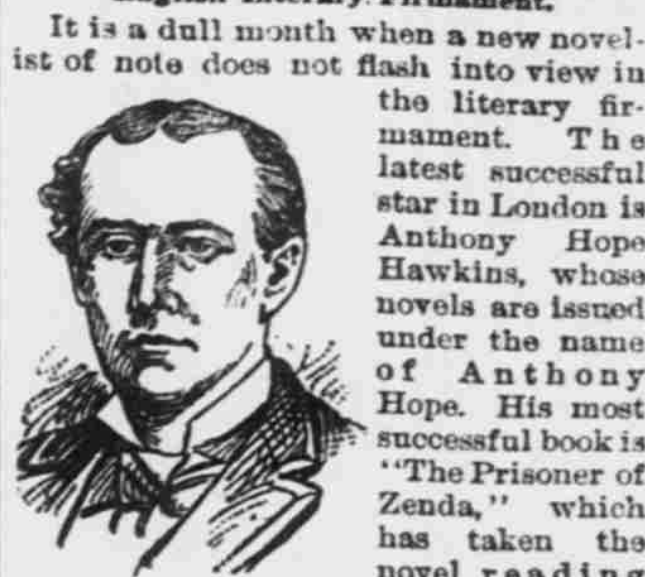
she can go to the opera, and she can make her own opera cloak after that of her richer sister and be just as gracious and sweet in it. And if she sees the model she can make the moire coat also. The neat housewife has many other accomplishments.

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NOVELIST ANTHONY HOPE HAWKINS.

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It is a dull month when a new novelist of note does not flash into view in the literary firmament. The latest successful star in London is Anthony Hope Hawkins, whose novels are issued under the name of Anthony Hope. His most successful book is "The Prisoner of Zenda," which has taken the novel reading public of Great Britain by storm, but "The Indiscretion of the Duchess," "The God in the Car" and "The Dolly Dialogues" are all very bright and readable. Mr. Hawkins, who is a London lawyer, has a cynical style and an epigrammatic manner of saying things that prove very attractive to the average novel reader.

"Economy," he says in "The Dolly Dialogues," "is going without something you do want, in case you should some day want something which you probably won't want."

"Alas," he exclaims, "with advancing years wrong loses half its flavor! To be improper ceases, by itself, to satisfy."

"Bourgeois," he remarks, "is an epithet which the riffraff apply to what is respectable and the aristocracy to what is decent."

His dialogues fairly dash with delicate wit.

"Money is the temptation, you see," said Aycon.

"Mon Dieu, to have none is greater!" and Gustave shook his head solemnly.

Dolly Foster is engaged to be married to Lord Mickleham and is reading her letters of congratulation to a former flame.

"This is from Aunt Georgiana—she's a widow—lives at Cheltenham. 'My dearest Dorothea'—"

"Who?"

"Dorothea's my name, Mr. Carter. It means the gift of heaven, you know."

"Precisely. Pray, proceed, Miss Dolly. I did not at first recognize you."

"My dearest Dorothea, I have heard the news of your engagement to Lord Mickleham with deep thankfulness. To obtain the love of an honest man is a great prize. I hope you will prove worthy of it. Marriage is a trial and an opportunity."

"Hear, hear!" said I. "A trial for the husband and!"

These excerpts give very little idea of the sustained brilliancy of Mr. Hawkins' conversations, many of which are as bright as those that materially aided "The Heavenly Twins" to score such a success in the literary world.

THE GEORGE ELIOT OF SYRIA.

Mme. Hanna Korany, the Young Syrian Author and Lecturer.

Mme. Hanna K. Korany, the Syrian woman who represented her countrywomen at the World's fair with dignity and grace, and who has since been lecturing throughout the country on Syrian life, is a charming young woman of the oriental type, with clear, olive complexion, large, dark eyes and black hair. She was born near Beirut, Syria, and was educated at an American school in that city. While yet in her teens she began to take a strong interest in the affairs of Syria and to wield an able pen. Her work roused her countrymen to a sense of their wrongs, and she has been called the George Eliot of Syria. Her first book, "Manners and Customs," attracted widespread attention and was

translated into French. In this manner Mrs. Potter Palmer heard of the young Syrian author and invited her to represent Syrian women at the World's fair. She did so and at the same time brought to America an elaborate display of Syrian embroideries that attracted much attention at the fair.

At present the women of Syria have no clubs, no organizations and no occupations except the domestic duties of the home. With this fact Mme. Korany has no quarrel, but she thinks they would be better off if they were not so well satisfied with their lot. The great need of Syria is nonsectarian schools, where the children of various creeds may be brought together on equal grounds and be made tolerant of the belief of others. "We are far behind the American women, or, as I might say, the rulers of this country," she says. "I told the ladies in Washington I thought they voted already, for they have such great influence with the men. We have several good schools in my country, but they do not teach women to be lawyers or doctors. They teach women to improve the home. I do not think it is right for the women of Syria to go into business among men. The country is not ready for such a move yet."

In Syria she would not think of crossing the street unattended, and she thinks America is a very paradise of freedom, goodness, benevolence, happiness and comfort.

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